

AMENDED CLAIMS:

1. (amended) A system for drafting a patent application and assessing technological information comprising:

at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and

software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization and for automatically generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification and claims, based upon the user inputted information and additional text-based detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what may be claimed in a patent application.

2. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the diagram is modifiable by the at least one user and the diagram hierarchical component categorization and related text-based detailed information is automatically updated based upon the user modifications.
3. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one key component includes a multiplicity of components.
4. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one subcomponent further includes at least one sub-subcomponent.
5. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the relational connection between components establishes the claims structure of the patent application.
6. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the text-based information and the diagram components are automatically linked.
7. (original) The system according to claim 6, wherein the link(s) are hyperlinks.
8. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are capable of being output into another software program.
9. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are exportable in HTML format.
10. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are exportable in XML format.
11. (amended) A method for drafting a patent application comprising the steps of:
at least one user entering information relating to components of a patentable invention;

a system automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of the invention in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the system includes at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization and for automatically generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification and claims, based upon the user inputted information and additional text-based detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto; and

the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a tangible medium- , wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what may be claimed in a patent application.

12. (amended) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:
at least one user entering diagram ~~verbage~~ verbiage by drafting the text-based detailed description or ~~verbage~~ verbiage of the specification section of the application for each component of the diagram.

13. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:
at least one user inputting additional components selected from the group consisting of key components, subcomponents, and sub-subcomponents.

14. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the steps of:
modifying any previously inputted components within the diagram; and
the system automatically updating the diagram and relational information to those modified components.

15. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of
automatically generating a patent application based upon the inputted information and the hierarchical diagram, including specification and claims.

16. (new) A system for mapping technology comprising:
at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and
software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for
automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of a technology, wherein the

diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the technology based upon the user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto.

17. (new) A method for mapping technology comprising the steps of:
at least one user entering information relating to components of a technology;
a system automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of the technology in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the system includes at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of a technology, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the technology based upon the user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto; and the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a tangible medium.

18. (new) A system for examining a patent application comprising:
at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and
software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the patent applicant's inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization for a patent examiner to review the diagram as part of the examination of a patent application, wherein the diagram provides a substantive and hierarchical representation of the claims as written in the patent application; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what is claimed in the patent application.
19. (new) A method for examining a patent application comprising the steps of:
at least one user entering information relating to the claims of a potentially patentable invention, as represented in a patent application;

a system automatically generating a visual diagram of components of the invention in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the diagram includes technical components from the claims of the patent application, as well as the hierarchical relationship of the claims to each other;

wherein the system includes at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the patent applicant's inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization for a patent examiner to review the diagram as part of the examination of a patent application; wherein the diagram provides a substantive and hierarchical representation of the claims as written in the patent application; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what is claimed in the patent application.